

**SELECTBOARD AND BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, July 20, 2020**

Remote Zoom Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Rich Kuklewicz, Chris Boutwell, and Michael Nelson, Town Administrator Steven Ellis, Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz, Board of Health Chair Al Cummings, Director of Public Health Daniel Wasiuk, and Police Chief Chris Williams.

Link to Zoom Meeting: <https://vimeo.com/442349567>

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Board of Health Chair opens the meeting, roll call taken.

Approve Minutes: Joint Selectboard and Board of Health July 13, 2020

- *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Joint Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes of July 13, 2020. Seconded by Nelson, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Nelson - Abstain*
- *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Joint Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes of July 13, 2020. Seconded by Nelson, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Cummings - Aye, Nelson - Abstain*

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

COVID-19 Updates and Action Items

Review of any Updated State Guidance or Orders

- Montague cases remain the same as they have been for the last few weeks.
- The Commissioner rescinded the order that grocery and pharmacies are not allowed to use reusable bags.
- Barbes in the Woods in-person event will not take place this summer. They are planning to post a virtual event.
- Great Falls Festival will be postponed until next year.
- The Montague Soap Box Derby has been put off until either next spring or next fall.
- The Montague Public Libraries are continuing to offer their curbside pick-up and outreach deliveries.

Patricia Hynes, Traprock Center for Peace and Justice

Use of Public Property: Peskeompskut Park, August 6, 2020, 7:30 PM, approx. 40 people. Event to remember the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki

- It was verified that the Governor's order exempts the maximum number of people allowed for rallies of political speech.
- *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property: Peskeompskut Park, August 6, 2020, 7:30 PM, approx. 40 people. Event to remember the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki; the fee is waived. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the Board of Health. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Cummings - Aye

Personnel Board

Appoint Suzanne LoManto, Assistant Planner, NAGE, Grade D, Step 4, \$22.16/hr

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Suzanne LoManto, Assistant Planner, NAGE, Grade D, Step 4, \$22.16/hr. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Michael Naughton

Six Town Regional Planning Committee Progress Report

- Naughton shares that the Board has engaged consultants who are in the process of producing some reports on the financial and educational implications of forming a Six Town Regional School District, as well as the financial implications of not doing that.

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- There are two subcommittees, one for education and one for the finances, facilities, and transportation.
- Once they receive the finished report, they will go from there.
- Ellis states that it is important to identify the best path forward for serving our pre-K to 12th grade students in the region.
- The school committee has a need to appoint a new third member who represents the school committee on the larger study committee. No one has stepped forward.

Low Collins, Between the Uprights

Status of License Fees paid in 2020 and not being able to use them due to COVID shutdown

- Collins wonders if (1) there will be a credit for the months that businesses were not able to use their license due to COVID, and (2) if they are to go out of business due to COVID, are any of their fees refundable?
- Boutwell feels we need to do something given the situation.
- Nelson agrees that this issue needs to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis so that we can give some financial relief to those who have been affected.
- Kuklewicz agrees that it would be good if we could do something, though he does not know what that is. He suggests researching the possibility of looking at the period of time that an establishment was closed, then issuing a credit accordingly.
- According to Ellis, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 138 section 23 states that fees may not be returned in the event of business closure or premature termination of a license. There would need to be some State level reform to enable that type of consideration.
- With regard to offering a differential benefit based on the calculation of whether a business was able to open or not, a lot of legal questions would need to be answered.
- Collins emphasizes that his question is for all other like-minded businesses, not just his own.
- Ellis encourages businesses to get in touch with the Planning Office regarding some grants and programs offered by the Franklin County CDC.

Town's Administrator's Report

- **FC Solid Waste Management District FY21 Hauling and Disposal MOU**
Nelson makes the motion to execute the FC Solid Waste Management District FY21 Hauling and Disposal MOU. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Boutwell - Abstain
- **Montague Center Traffic Calming Update**
 - Extra radar will be run in the area.
 - Chief Williams has purchased two portable speed signs. One will be put up in Montague; the other will be rotated through the other villages.
 - Bergeron has added yellow line striping to more clearly define the traffic flow. This is a temporary measure.
 - Curbing will be added in early fall.
 - More lining in the central corridor will be added, but we are waiting on the line company.
- **Police Review Advisory Group Application Update**
Ellis reports that we have in excess of 20 applications. These applications will be reviewed and recommendations will hopefully be made to the Board on July 27.
- **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**
Kuklewicz mentions that he and Ellis will be on "staycation" the first week of August.

Execution Session under G.L. c. 30A §21(a)(6) to consider the purchase of real property: Map 17 Lot 13A. Votes may be taken.

- The Chair deems that holding this discussion in public would be detrimental to the Town's position.
- *Nelson makes the motion to enter Execution Session under G.L. c. 30A §21(a)(6) to consider the purchase of real property: Map 17 Lot 13A. Votes may be taken. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*